Public Works Department
Administration, Engineering, Maintenance, Utilities

Solid Waste Collection Program

City Council

Study Session Item #1

July 28, 2014

OBJECTIVES

Imagine Bloomington 2025 Vision

"To build and renew the community by providing services, promoting renewal and guiding growth in an even more sustainable, fiscally sound manner. Bloomington's vision of success is centered on its people, neighborhoods, businesses and government."

Objectives

Three Aspects of Sustainability

- **Society** – *Social sustainability is about meeting the needs of everyone in our community, regardless of their socio-economic status*
- **Environment** – *Bloomington's history of good stewardship provides a foundation for future environmental sustainability*
- **Economy** – *Bloomington has grown a very strong financial base that is reflected in our three triple-A bond ratings*

Objectives

Society

- Neighborhood Livability
  - Reduce truck noise
  - Reduce wind-blown material
  - Reduce odor
  - Protect neighborhood appearance
- Safety
  - Fewer trucks

Objectives

Environment

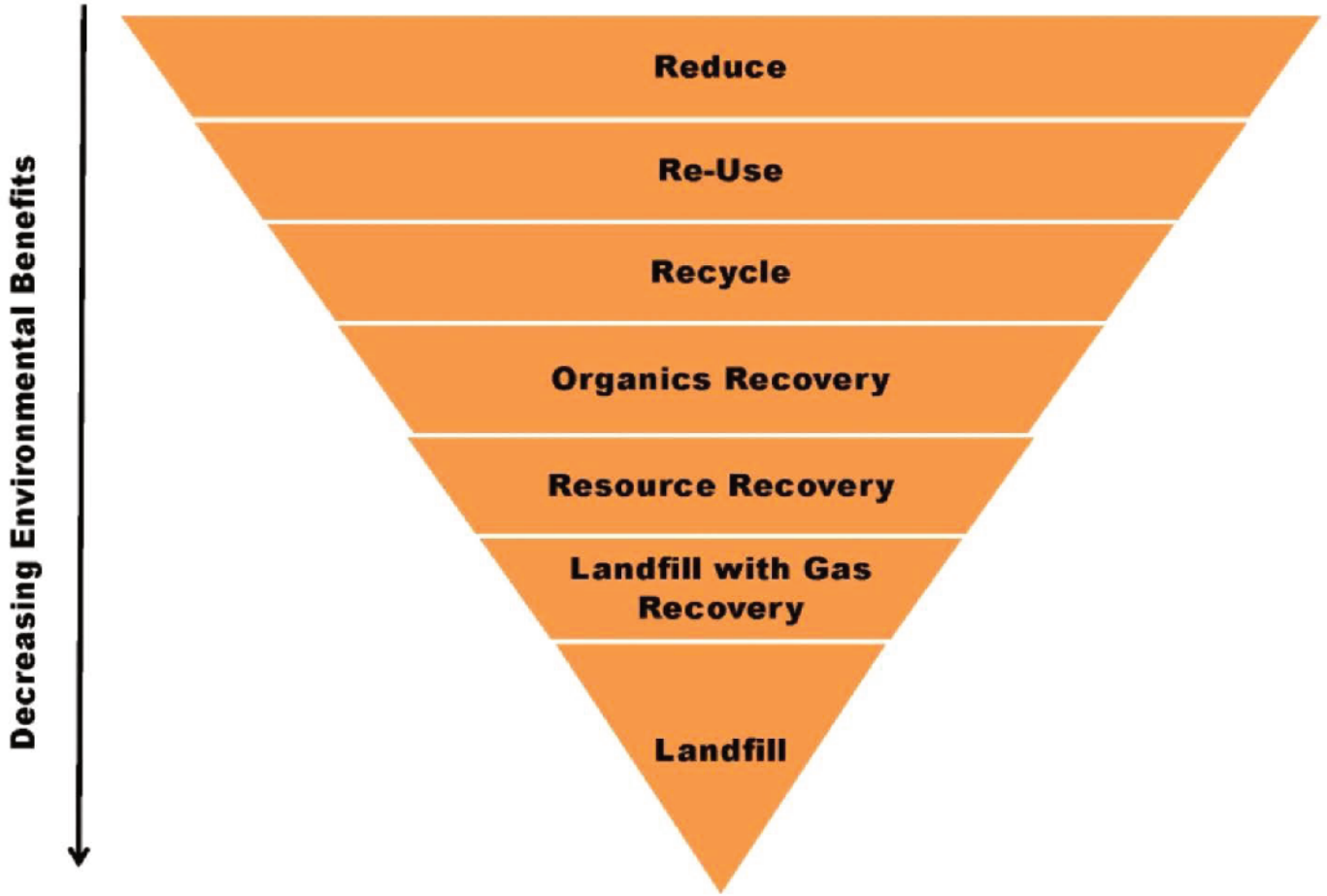
- Reduce Landfilling
  - Increase recycling
  - Waste-to-energy program
- Reduce Pollution
  - Less air pollution
  - Clean fuel use
  - Trip reduction
- Reduce Fuel Use

Objectives

Economy

- Cost
  - Reduce collection costs
  - Maintain low cost curbside cleanup
  - Staffing cost considerations
- Streets
  - Reduce impact on streets

Hierarchy of Preferred Solid Waste Management Methods



Source: MPCA Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Policy Plan (2011)

Impacts of Organized Collection

July 11th Memo (CMI)

- **Cost of Solid Waste Services**
- **Recycling Rates**
- **Environmental Impacts** (Air Pollution, Carbon Footprint, Landfill Use)
- **Neighborhood Impacts** (Traffic, Noise, Safety, Roadways)

Cost of Solid Waste Services

- **Statewide Data (MPCA Study)**
  - Suggests savings of up to $8/month
- **Bloomington Survey (Average $21.33/month)**
- **Minneapolis**
  - Suggests small increase ($1.37/month)
- **Maplewood**
  - Suggests small increase ($4.07/month)
- **St. Louis Park**
  - Suggests small increase ($1.35/month)

Cost of Solid Waste Services

- Existing rates vary considerably
- Difficult to compare rates between communities

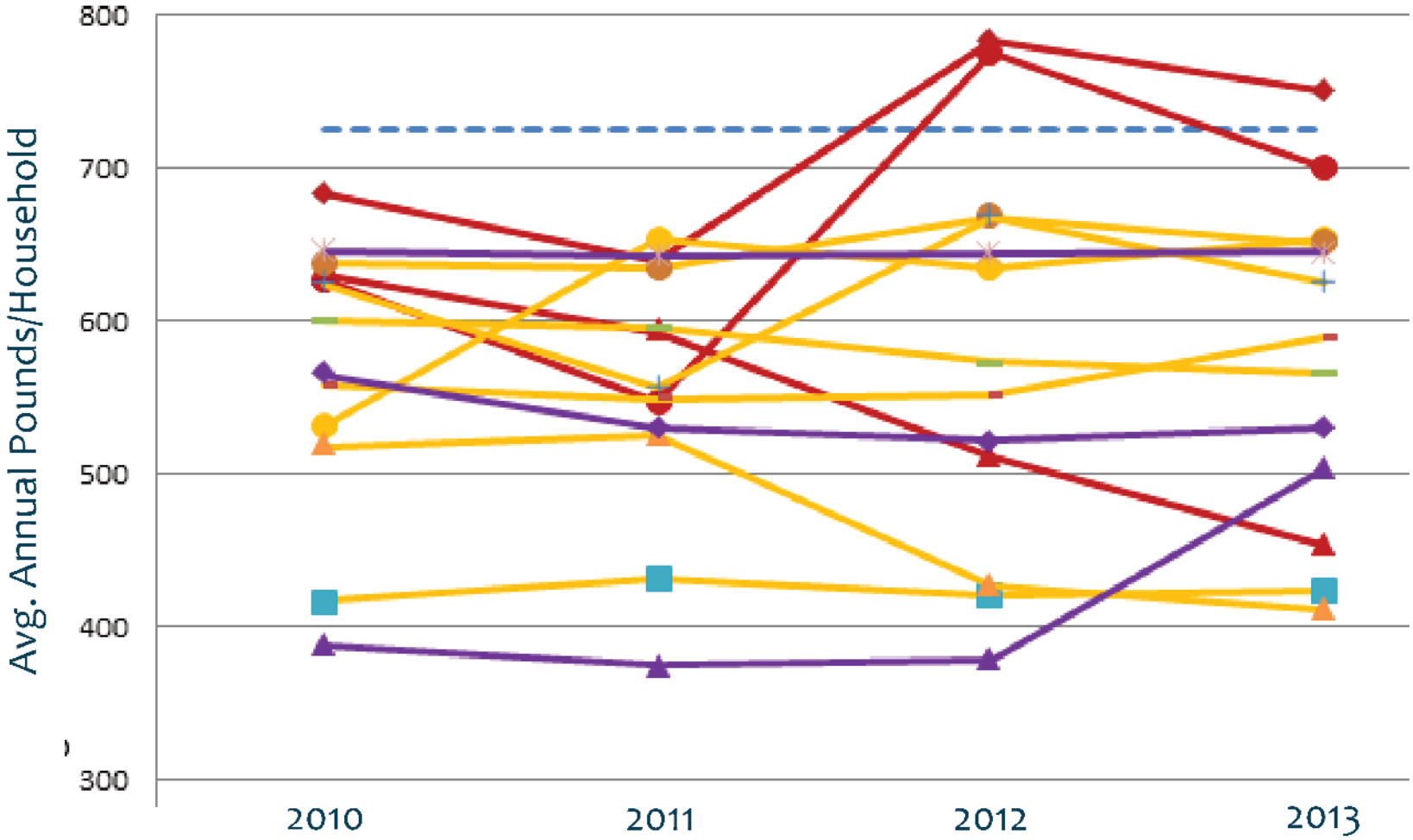
Conclusion

- Average rate paid in an organized system would be similar to existing average rates
- Some residents would pay more with a switch to organized collection and some would pay less

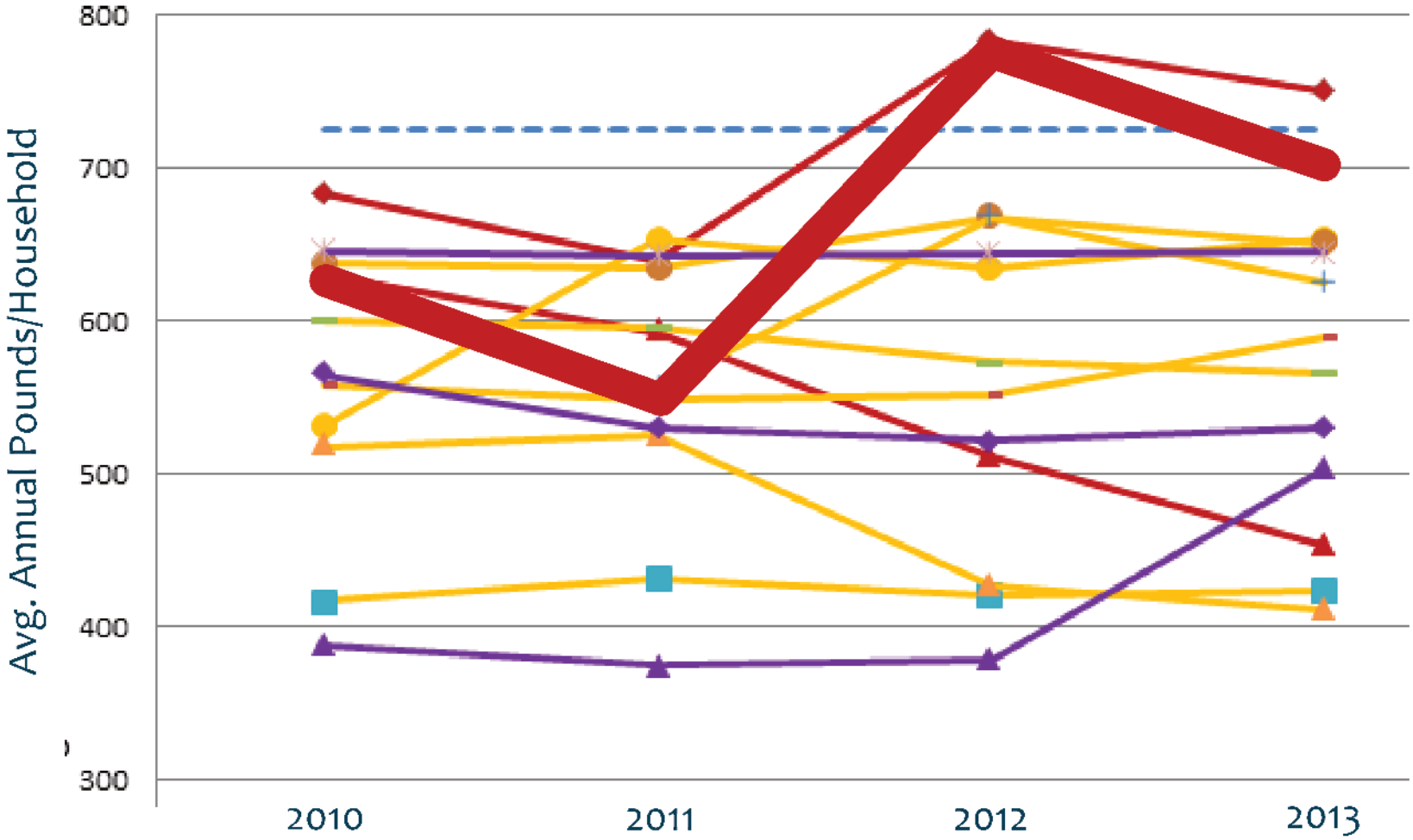
Recycling Rates

- **Hennepin County Data**
  - Reported annually
  - Tonnage of recyclables collected
  - Based on hauler reporting

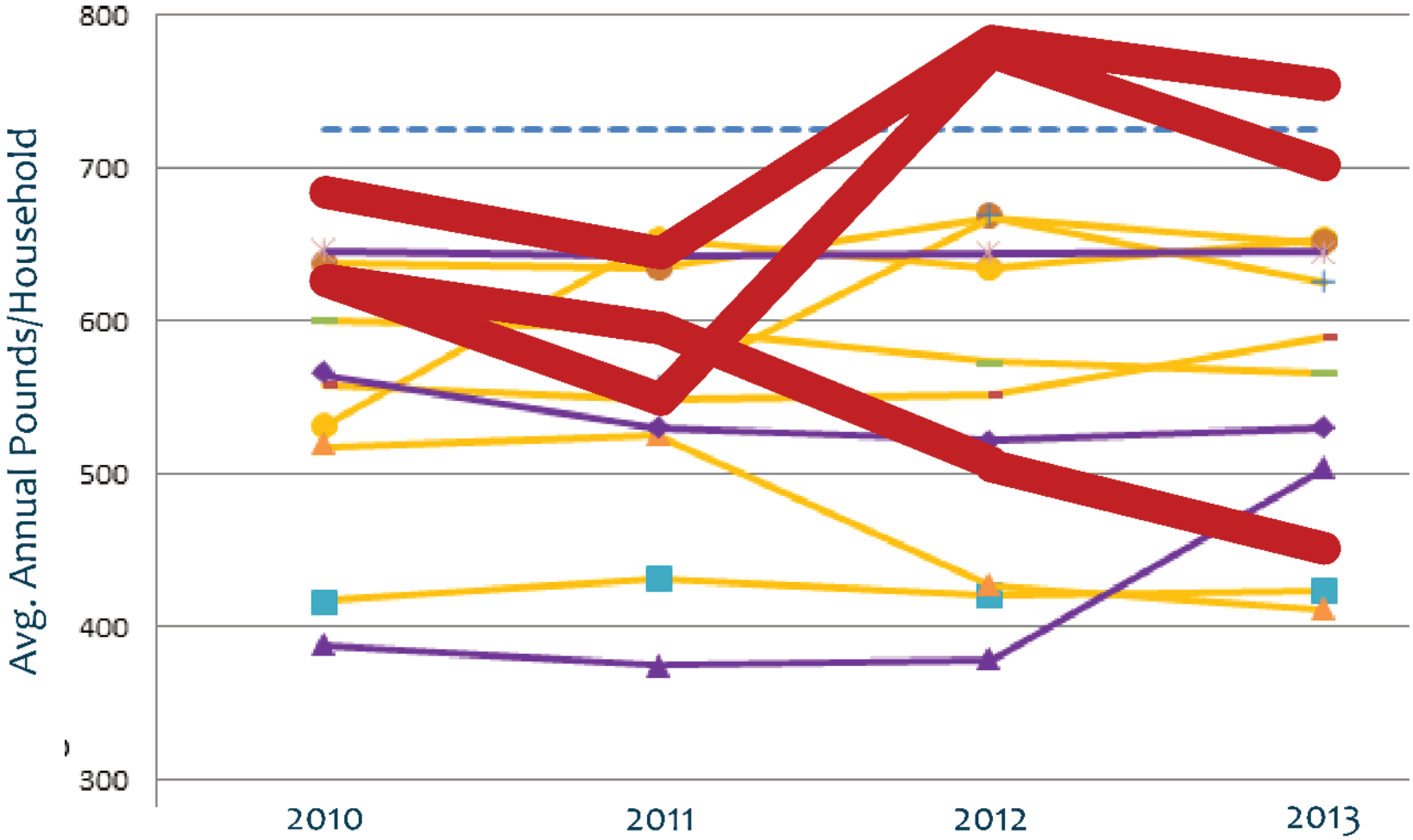
Recycling Rates



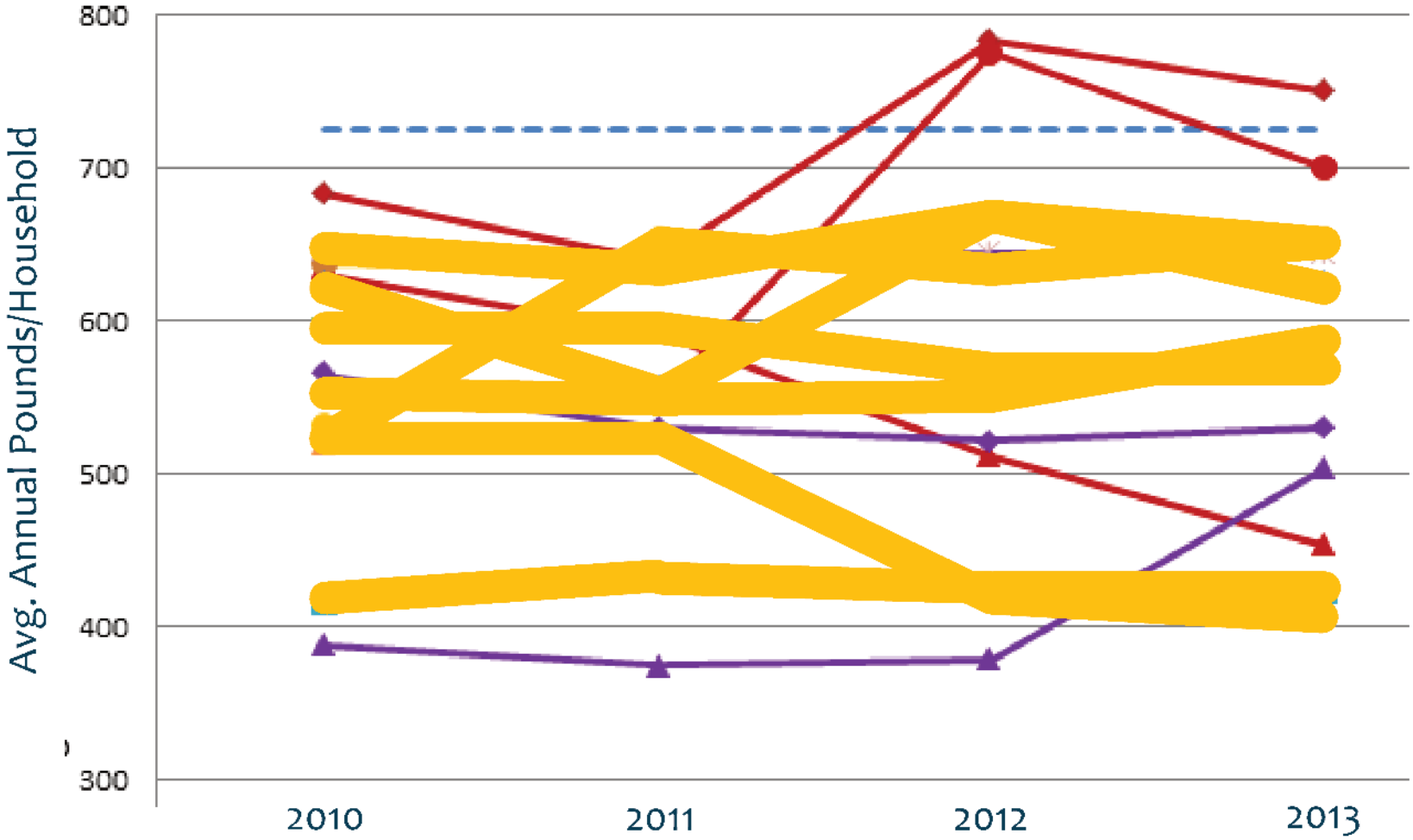
Recycling Rates – Bloomington



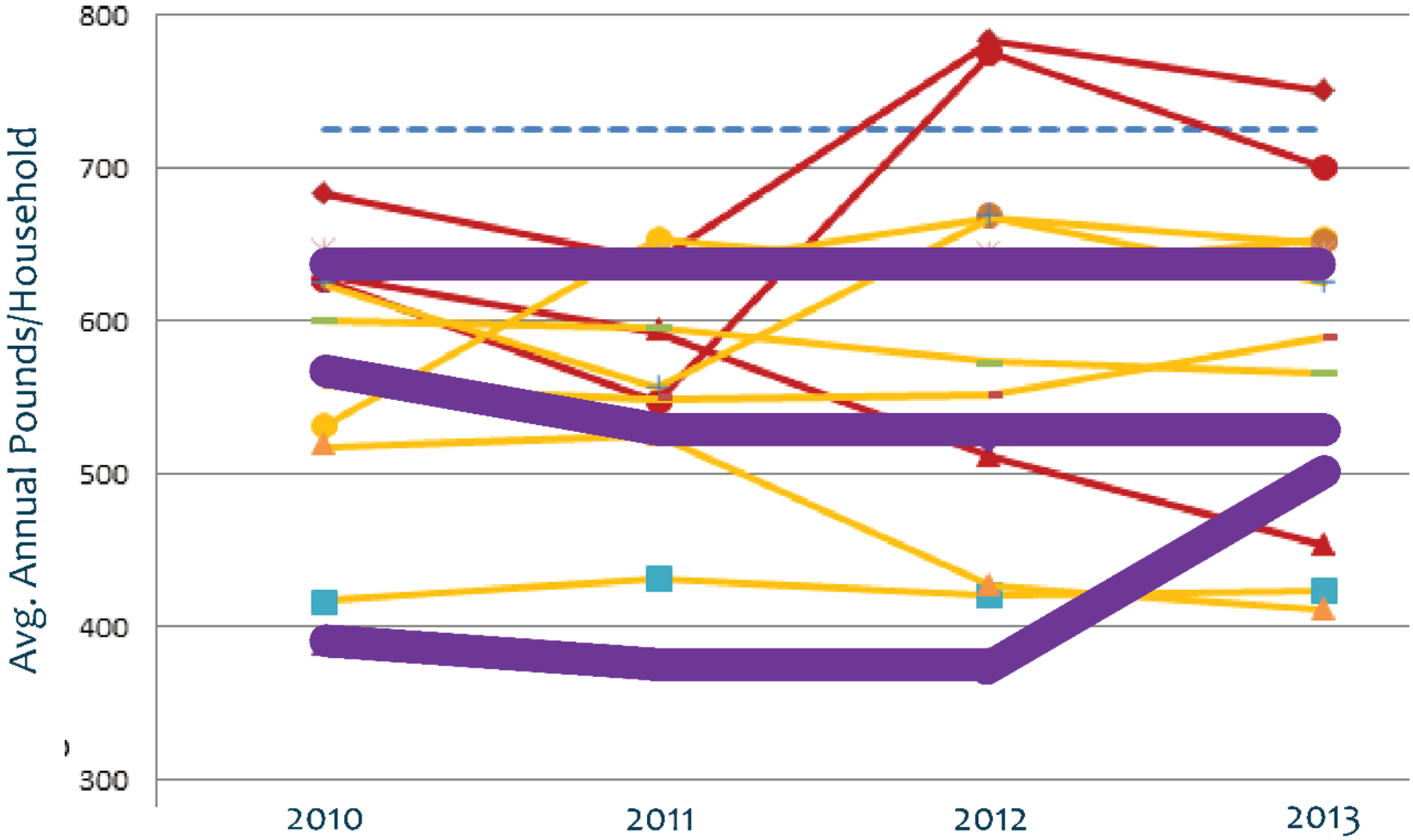
Recycling Rates – Open Systems



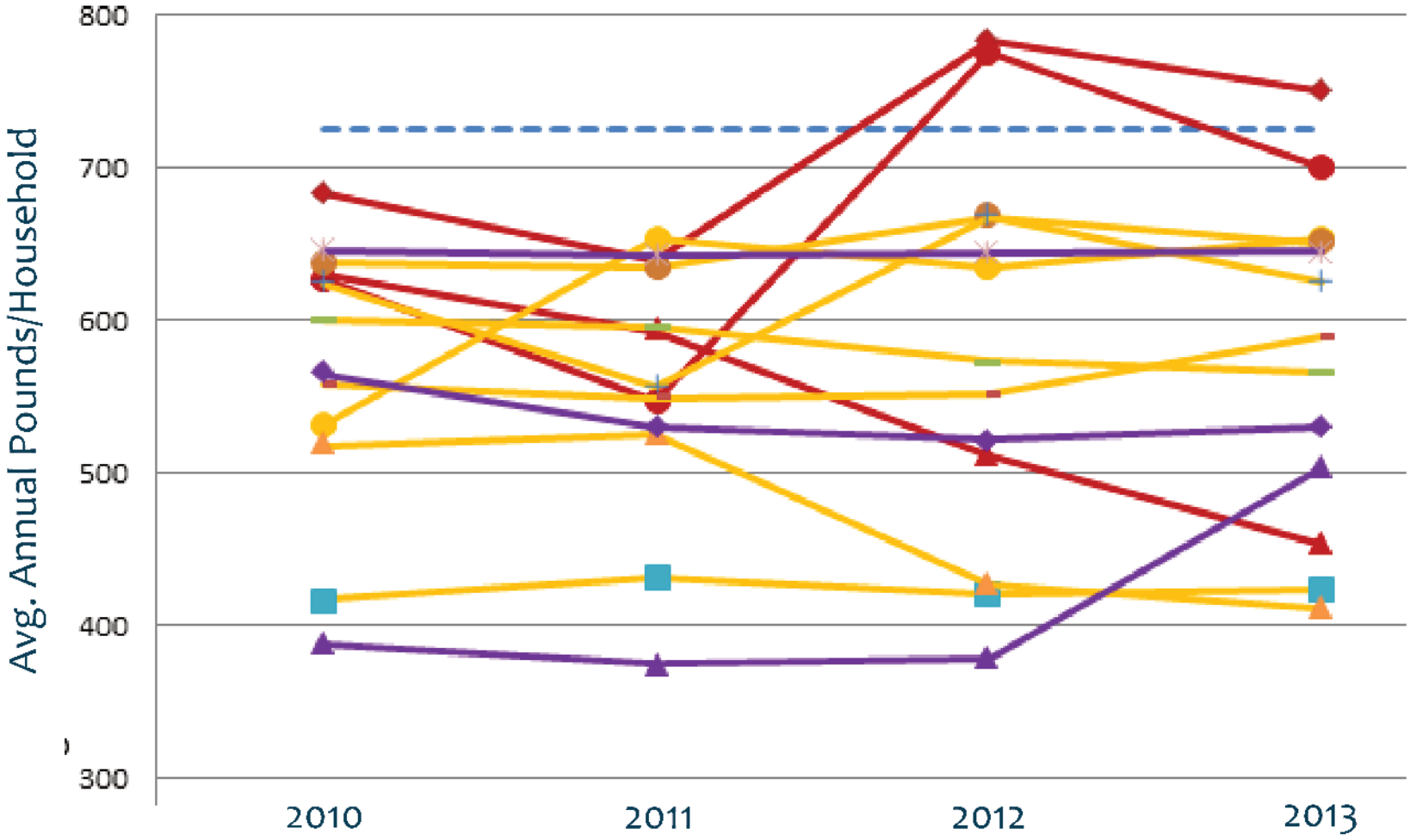
Recycling Rates – Hybrid Systems



Recycling Rates – Organized Systems



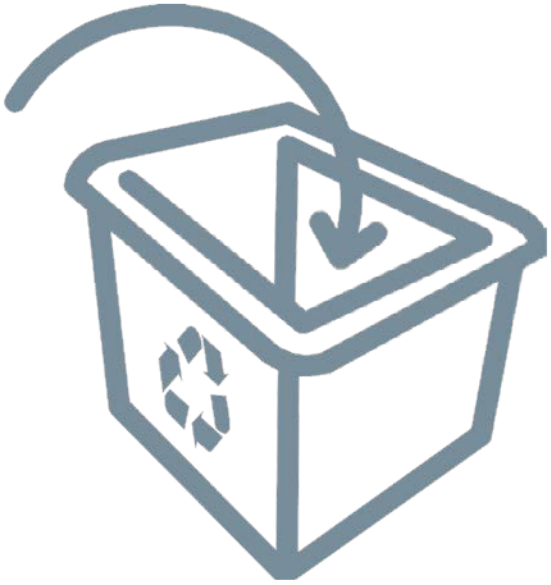
Recycling Rates



Recycling Rates

Conclusion

- No indication that organized collection will improve recycling rates/tonnage



Environmental Impacts

- **Market forces and State/Federal regulations have the greatest impact**
- **Local regulations can be imposed in both open and organized systems**
- **Organized collection can reduce the number of trucks in a neighborhood**
  - Up to 80% (in neighborhoods with 5 haulers)
  - Potential emissions reduction is very small relative to total community emissions

Environmental Impacts

Conclusion

- It is not likely that organized collection will have significant environmental benefits compared to other collection systems

Neighborhood Impacts

Neighborhood Livability

- Each hauler = 3 trucks trips
- Organized collection could reduce up to 80% of trucks on garbage day

Safety

- Large trucks can be dangerous
- Trash vehicle crashes are uncommon – No accident history in Bloomington

Pavement Life

- Traffic and environmental factors
- Environmental factors are proportionately larger on low volume streets
- Difficult to gauge lower maintenance needs

Neighborhood Impacts

Conclusion

- Truck volumes could be reduced up to 80%
- Perceived safety may improve
- No measurable difference in road maintenance costs

Approaches

- Approach #1 – Educate, Enable, Enforce
- Approach #2 – Scalable
- Approach #3 – Full Organized Collection

Approach #1 – Educate, Enable, Enforce

- Expansion of existing efforts
- Could include:
  - Additional publications and videos
  - More City sponsored/coordinated programs and events
  - Additional/Revised City Ordinances
  - Increased enforcement
  - Best Practices
  - Demonstration projects
- Require additional resources

Approach #1 – Educate, Enable, Enforce

	Potential Impact		
	Small	**Medium**	**Large**
Society			
Environment			
Economy			

Approach #2 – Scalable

- Organize Recycling First
  - Implementation by January 2015
  - Offer organics and yard waste as options
  - In Bloomington 1989 – 1995
  - Reduce truck trips by up 50%
  - Approval process could be relatively "easy"
- Then, Undertake Full Organized System
  - Early 2016 implementation
  - Process to decide specifics
  - Reduce truck trips by up to 80%
  - Approval process potentially "easier"
- Similar to Bloomington Master Recycler/Composter Group Recommendation
- Could include Approach #1

Approach #2 – Scalable (Recycling)

	Potential Impact		
	Small	Medium	Large
Society			
Environment			
Economy			

Approach #2 – Scalable (Full)

Potential Impact

	Small	Medium	Large
Society			
Environment			
Economy			

Approach #3 – Full Org. Collection

- Organize both Trash and Recycling Concurrently
- Implementation – January 2016
- Reduce Truck Trips by up to 80%
- Follow Full Organized Collection Process
- Potentially "More Difficult" Process
- Could include Approach #1

Approach #3 – Full Org. Collection

	Potential Impact		
	Small	**Medium**	**Large**
Society			
Environment			
Economy			

TIMELINE

		2014		2015				2016			
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Approach #1	Educate, Enable, Enforce	*Hire Help*	*Plan New Initiatives/ Prepare New Educational Materials*	*Begin New Initiatives*							
Approach #2	Scalable Organized Collection	*Ord. Mod/ Council Appr/ Contract RFP for Organized Recycling*	*Award Contract/ Provide Notice to Residents and Haulers*	*Begin Org Recycl-ing*	*Approve adding Organized Trash/Negot. with Existing Haulers*	*Form Citizens Committee/ Prepare Recommend. Report*	*Public Hearing/ Contract RFP*	*Award Contract/ Provide Notice to Residents and Haulers*	*Begin Full Organized Collection*		
Approach #3	Fully Organized Solid Waste Collection	*Begin Organized Collection Process/Negotiate with Existing Haulers*	*Form Citizens Committee/Prepare Recommendation Report*	*Public Hearing/Contract RFP*		*Award Contract/Provide Notice to Residents and Haulers*		*Begin Full Organized Collection*			

Recommendation

- Start Approach #1 Immediately for All 3 Land Use Categories

If more organized collection is desired:

- Approach #2
  - Same benefits as Approach #3
  - Truck traffic reduced sooner
  - Allows flexibility and scalability
  - Potential reduction in controversy

Questions / Discussion

Introduction

- Original Work Plan
  - Solid Waste Management Plan
  - Options Plan
  - Implementation
- Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP)(Draft)
  - Comprehensive Inventory of Solid Waste Issues in Bloomington
  - Community Engagement Report (Draft), which summarized extensive community input
- April 14, 2014 Study Session
  - Extensive Review/Discussion of the SWMP (Draft) and Community Engagement Report (Draft)
  - City Council expressed desire to move forward more quickly toward some form of organized collection
  - City Council directed staff to present clear options to proceed (in 90 days)